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Service Division

Committee on European Satellites

(Eusat Committee Meeting - 12th Meeting - 1330 9 May 1956)

Present:

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25X1A9a The meeting was devoted to a discussion of current economic developments in the Eusat area. Participating in the discussion was [REDACTED] of I/AR.

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Among the topics under consideration were: (1) Reported intention to construct a railroad from Tirana, Albania to Titograd, Yugoslavia and the possible traffic potential for such a line; (2) Certain east-west trade developments involving the Eusats; (3) East German plans and capability for production of aircraft with particular reference to report that a jet-propelled airliner is being developed in the GDR; (4) Shipments of military goods from Czechoslovakia to the middle east; (5) Other topics of mutual interest.

From the point of view of source material a matter of considerable interest is the announcement (FBIS 3 May) that the Polish Government has just released The Statistical Yearbook for 1953-1954. It is stated that "... the most extensive part of the year-book comprises figures illustrating the development of industry, agriculture, building trade, goods turnover and foreign trade, national income, labor and wage indices, and so forth." Since 100,000 copies were issued it is anticipated that the intelligence community should be able to secure a copy in some manner.

Particular attention is also directed to the recently published ORR report "Economic Conditions in the European Satellites, 1954-55" (CIA/RR PR-139, 23 Apr 56, Secret). The various economic data maps in the report are especially useful in providing a concise representation of the Eusat economic structure.

25X1A9a The next meeting, Wednesday 16 May, will have as its topic for discussion "Intelligence Sources on the Eusats and External Research Opportunities in West Germany". [REDACTED] Chief, A/EE, who returned in late 1955 [REDACTED] will give a talk and lead the discussion. Members are urged to convene promptly at 1330.

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Chairman

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